

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 02131 081106Z
ACTION EB-08

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, JA
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: MORE TROUBLE AT NARITA

REF: 77 TOKYO 19495

1. SUMMARY: RIOT POLICE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING MILITANTS
GUARDING NEW STEEL TOWER AT NARITA FOLLOWING 2-DAY BATTLE.
WORK ON JET FUEL RAILAY TRANSPORT SYSTEM STIRS LABOR
AND ACTIVIST PROTEST. PROBLEMS AT NARITA ARE FAR FROM
OVER. END SUMMARY.

2. EVENING OF FEBRUARY 7, RIOT POLICE SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING
LAST OF MILITANT STUDENTS FROM 20 METER STEEL TOWER AT
END OF NARITA AIRPORT'S YET-TO-BE COMPLETED RUNWAY B AFTER
TWO-DAY BATTLE. TOWER WAS HASTILY CONSTRUCTED ON SUNDAY
ATOP AN EXISTING TWO-STORY CONCRETE STRUCTURE. JAPAN'S
CIVIL AVIATION LAW PRONIBITS A STRUCTURE OF MORETHAN 10
METERS HEIGHT IN AREA AND 800 RIOT POLICE MOVEDIN TO
DISMANTLEIT FEBRUARY 6 AT THE REQUEST OF THE NEW TOKYO INTER-
NATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY. POLICE MET UNEXPECTED RESISTANCE.
SOME 41 YOUTHS WERE ARRESTED WITHIN BUILDING BY END OF
FIRST DAY WHILE FOUR REMAINED ATOP TOWER UNTIL LATE
TUESDAY WHEN THEY "VOLUNTARILY" SURRENDERED AFTER
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 02131 081106Z

POLICE"ABANDONED" HOPE OF FORCING THE STUDENTS DOWN
DURING THE NIGHT. MILITANTS HURLED ROCKS AND MOLOTOV
COCKTAILS WHILE POLICE COUNTERED WITH WATER CANNONS
AND TEAR GAS. ABOUT 45 ARRESTS WERE MADE AND 24 POLICE
REPORTED INJURED.

3. IN SEPARATE INCIDENT, JNR LABOR UNION STAGED
A LIMITED HALF-DAY STRIKE AND SLOW DOWN TO PROTEST WORK
BEGUN ON RAIL SHUNTING POINT AT MAKUHARI FOR JET FUEL. ACCORDING
TO PRESS REPORTS, CONSTRUCTION
WAS BEGUN DURING NIGHT
HOURS BY WORKERS GUARDED BY RIOT POLICE AMID PROTEST
MARCHES AND RALLIES STAGED BY SOME 200 ANTI-AIRPORT
ACTIVISTS. SHUTTING POINT IS TO BE COMPLETED BY
FEBRUARY 20 WITH FUEL SHIPMENT SCHEDULED TO BEGIN
MARCH 1.

4. COMMENT: REPORTEDLY, NEW EFFORTS TO BUILD ANOTHER
OBSTRUCTION AT NARITA ARE ALREADY UNDER WAY. MOREOVER, A SECOND
20-METER CONCRETE BUILDING ALREADY STANDS AT THE END
OF NARITA'S COMPLETED RUNWAY A AND PRESUMABLY THIS TOO
WILL HAVE TO COME DOWN. IN SUM, THE TROUBLES SURROUNDING
NARITA'S OPENING, MUCH LESS OPERATION, ARE NOT YET
OVER.
SHERMAN

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